BLAINE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Dolores Plumage, Chairperson Frank DePriest Charles Kulbeck DATE 1-21-2013 BILL NO. SB 54

P.O. Box 278 (406)357-3250

Chinook, Montana 59523-0278

January 18, 2013

Senator Tom Facey Montana Senate P. O. Box 200500 Helena, MT 59620-0500

Dear Senator Facey:

In Blaine County, there are approximately 100 volunteer firefighters who consistently respond to all types of emergencies. About 80 percent to 90 percent of the volunteers are self-employed without full time coverage from their full time jobs. They have put themselves in precarious situations, but it is now time to consider their safety when they are on the front line saving lives and property.

Not only do they tend to Blaine County, they also travel to other areas and assist those entities in times of need. It is with appreciation to our emergency personnel that Blaine County supports Senate Bill 54 – Require worker's compensation coverage for volunteer firefighters. Thank you for your sponsorship of this bill and we urge a positive outcome in the voting process.

Sincerely,

Attest:

Dolores Plumage, Chairperson

Sandra L. Boardman, Clerk & Recorder

Frank DePriest, Commissioner

Charles Kulbeck, Commissioner